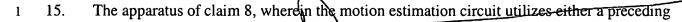
CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for performing motion estimation comprising:
- 2 receiving a stream of data comprising one or more bidirectionally interpolated frames (B-
- 3 frame) and a plurality of anchor frames; and
- 4 unidirectionally predicting content of each B-frame from a temporally closest anchor
- 5 frame.
- The method of claim 1, wherein the content of the B-frames is unidirectionally predicted from the content of the temporally closest anchor frame and one or more motion vectors.
 - 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the one or more motion vectors represent an activity measure of the temporally closest anchor frame.
 - 4. The method of claim 3, wherein the motion vector is determined by a sum of absolute differences in activity within the temporally closest anchor frame.
- 1 5. The method of claim 1, wherein the temporally closest anchor frame selected to
- 2 unidirectionally predict the content of the B-frame may either precede or supersede the B-frame.
- 1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of anchor frames and B-frames contain
- 2 progressive video content.
- The method of claim 1, wherein the plurality of anchor frames and B-frames contain
- 2 interlaced video content.

- a motion estimation circuit to receive one or more bidirectionally interpolated frames (B-
- frame) and a plurality of anchor frames, and to unidirectionally predict content of each of the
- 4 plurality of B-frames from a select anchor frame.
- 1 9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the motion estimation circuit predicts the content for
- 2 each B-frame from a temporally closest anchor frame.
- 1 10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the motion estimation circuit generates a motion vector
- 2 based, at least in part, on the selected anchor frame.
- 1 11. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the motion vector represents an activity measure of the anchor frame.
- 1 12. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the motion estimation circuit generates the motion vector from a sum of absolute differences in activity within the anchor frame.
- 1 13. The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the motion estimation circuit unidirectionally predicts
- the content of B-frames from a temporally closest anchor frame and one or more motion vectors
- 3 generated therefrom
- 1 14. The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the motion estimation circuit generates the one or
- 2 more motion vectors from a sum of absolute differences in activity within the temporally closest
- 3 anchor frame.



- or superseding anchor frame to-predict B frame content, depending on which is temporally closer
- 3 to the B frame.
- 2013 BIT
- 16. A storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when
- 2 executed, cause an executing processor to implement a motion estimation function to
- unidirectioanlly predict content of each of a plurality of received bidirectionally interpolated
- 4 frames (B-frames) from a select anchor frame.
- 1 17. The storage medium of claim 16, wherein the motion estimation function utilizes either a
- 2 preceding or superseding anchor frame to predict B-frame content, depending on which is
 - temporally closer to the B-frame.
 - 18. The storage medium of claim 16, wherein the motion estimation function generates a
 - motion vector from a sum of absolute differences in activity within the select anchor frame to
 - encode the B-frame.
 - 19. The storage medium of claim 16, wherein the motion estimation function selects the
 - 2 temporally closest anchor frame to the B-frame as the select anchor frame.